CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST

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RAY LEWIS
Editor and Publisher

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War and Rumors of War

NEVER perhaps in the history of Motion Pictures has there been as much confusion and disagreements, followed by the inevitable uncertainty which these conditions engender, plus general world conditions and the War, as we have now.

We know that the producer-distributor has a problem, nothing intangible, or hazy about this problem for it means Film Markets cut off to such an extent that it appears the American Film Industry will now have to nurse, sustain and support its own Infant Industry to survive.

It is difficult to secure finance for production, the uncertainty and war conditions, the latter which is taxing bankers, industries and individuals, is tending to make all investments more conservative and directing money toward War Supplies.

Aside from the money angle, there is the story angle which is a gamble, for who knows who is who today, with new Enemies and Allies being formed of present belligerents, and with Neutrals who are so close to War, that it is only a matter of time before sympathies may be marching soldiers.

Mr. Walter Wanger, who recently visited Toronto, told the press that he was forced to abandon "Personal History" because of the declaration of War, that he substituted "Foreign Correspondent", and that in its making the story was many times altered to suit War conditions and developments.

Long runs, longer pictures on single bills, increased prices may, or may not solve some of the Industry's problems. We know that with the exception of the downtown house identified with first run showings, that it is not profitable to increase prices for any picture.

Therefore, increased prices for exceptional pictures can never be a solution of the present picture's economic problem, because for every "Snow White" made, for every "Gone With The Wind" there have been a thousand "just good" pictures, for which no exhibitor would have the nerve to ask for an advance in price of admission.

If the exhibitor was not in business 52 weeks of the year, he could increase his admission prices for certain attractions which are outstanding. But, since he offers his public world-famous stars, directors, and authors week after week in productions, pictures which are good, bad and indifferent, how can he raise his price for the same stars, directors, author, etc., because the combination of artistic effort has happened to turn out a very good picture?

If the policy of a house was entirely changed, and something new to the general presentation introduced for a week or more, the exhibitor might legitimately ask for a higher admission price; and might find a public sufficiently interested to amiably stand for the increase. We must remember that the public today, which includes our picture-patrons, have not only grown accustomed to a standard admission price, the latter which has built up a powerful and world-wide popular Entertainment and Industry, but this public has grown accustomed to a bonus by way of an added attraction and also the Giveaway.

Aside from these angles there are the many confusions within, arising out of the business relationship which exists between producer-distributor and exhibitor. There is the U.S. Government's interest and the anti-trust suits, etc. If the new code is in need of the Federal Government and entire Judiciary to formulate it, and to see that it is observed, it is a waste of time and money, because it will not cure the ills. This Industry of Motion Pictures knows without any legal battalion what is the matter with its business policies; and if it is desirous of correcting the ills which exist, very decided ills, it can do it overnight. Some profits would have to be sacrificed, but think of what this confusion costs, not only in dollars, but in morale. You cannot put over a billion dollar Industry in the midst of confusion, threats, reprisals, ill-feeling as between buyer and seller, it all seeps out to the public; and perhaps that is the answer to double bills and giveaways.

—Editor.

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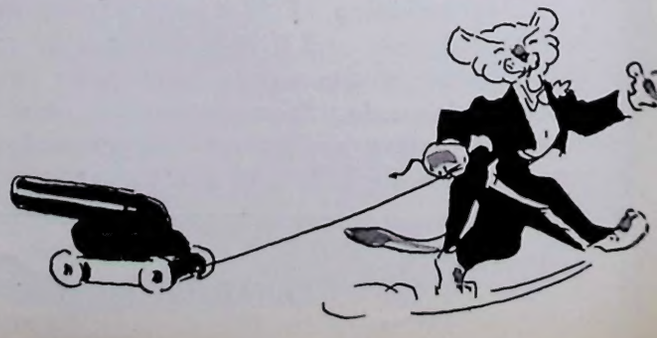
CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST COMPANY LIMITED
259 SPADINA AVENUE, TORONTO 2

Strike up the Band

MICKEY ROONEY
JUDY GARLAND
"The Babes in Arms" in M-G-M's
"STRIKE UP THE BAND"
with PAUL WHITEMAN AND ORCHESTRA
JUNE PREISSER • WILLIAM TRACY
Original Screen Play by John Monks, Jr. and Fred Finklehoffe
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture
Directed by Busby Berkeley
Produced by Arthur Freed

THE NEXT BOOM

from the "Boom Town" Company!



1940-41 is M-G-M's BOOM Year!

RAY PRESENTS

HAD a cheery letter frm Alice Fairweather, who has been doing such excellent work at Saint John. Alice knows everybody in that particular territory and has been a leading spirit in various women's associations, not overlooking her affiliation with the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors Association and the Film Boards. I am wondering, with the changes going on in Canada regarding Motion Picture Producers and Distributors Association and Film Boards, where Alice is to continue her services, so valuable to the Industry. It may be that Alice Fairweather will have some connection with the Conciliation Boards recently established in Canada. There were some rumours to that effect; and I hope for the Industry's sake that the rumours are true, because we cannot afford to have the Motion Picture Industry in Canada lose the services of Alice Fairweather, who in her quiet way always does the right thing and says the right thing, also.

A letter from the Granada Theatre at Dunnville, Ont., informs the War Services Committee, that in accordance with our efforts to put over Canada's Second War Loan, which by the way was oversubscribed to the extent of approximately $40,000,000, *speakers appeared at the Granada Saturday and Monday prior to the close of the loan. Mr. Fry, editor of the local newspaper was one of the speakers, and Mr. Camelford, General Manager of Dominion Fabrics, was the speaker for Monday. We understand that in Dunnville an important citizen who had subscribed heavily in the first war loan, hearing of the urgency, pulled in his belt and made a substantial subscription, the talk at the theatre proving an irresistible sales argument. Another letter from the Granada Theatre at Hamilton, Ont., informs us that Controller Don Clarke and Andy Frame were speakers and adds, "both speakers put the necessary punch into their talks".*

A letter from Prince Rupert, B.C., Dave Borland, Capitol Theatre, who writes: "Remember me—that guy 'Borderland' forty miles from Alaskan Border and the guy you also discovered came from Scotland? Just a line to advise you that I received C.M.P. War Services Committee wire signed Mr. Nathanson. Col. Nicholls is General Manager of the Canadian Fish & Cold Storage Co., who operate one of the biggest cold storage plants in the world, right in Prince Rupert, one of our prominent citizens and a good and forceful speaker, so I spotted him for Saturday night. We have no local War Loan Committee. I feel sure that this theatre has once again helped in the cause, 'There'll always be an England (governed by Scotchmen), as in shopping around the banks I found that Loan sales had been stimulated."

Letter from Jack Droy, of Vancouver, in which he sends me a little gossip as follows. "Eddie, the old veteran now booking for Fox in Vancouver, that is Eddie Teel, has been in the hospital, is still there following a very serious operation, but coming along nicely. We all wish him a speedy recovery. The New Vogue, management Bill Long, opens Nov. 15th as a first run combination pictures and vaudeville. Bill (RKO) Jones reports 'Snow White Revival' business great. Willard Adamson (Grand National) getting plenty of bookings with 'Song of the Road' especially noticeable at the box-office. Haskell Masters an expected visitor. Bob Scott (Lyric) up and around after recent illness, and Bob McEwan, Star Theatre, making B.C. golf history being well up on the Open Golf Drive." Thanks, Jack Droy, for the gossip.

REVERTING to Prince Rupert, B.C., a clipping from the Daily News has a heading, "Spoke For War Bonds" and mentions Col. J. W. Nicholls who did the speaking. "It is the duty of all Canadians to stand behind the fighting forces and this can be done in no better way than by supporting the war loan and assisting in supplying the sinews of war to the fighting forces. From the practical financial standpoint the money is just as safe in war bonds as in the bank and draws twice as much interest. 'And may you hope,' said Col. Nicholls in concluding his appeal, 'when you buy your bond, that it will be the bond that buys a bomb which exterminates Hitler." "Here, here," say I.

A letter from Chas. W. Taylor's Playhouse at Portage La Prairie, in which Mr. Taylor informs me "Acting on the instructions received by wire Sept. 13th, in connection with the New War Loan, the following schedule of five minute appeals from the theatre stage was arranged. Friday, H. E. Ireland, the Mayor of Portage La Prairie, Saturday, Rev. P. C. Bays, local Anglican Clergyman and Chaplain 102nd Training Centre, Monday, A. Hall, President Portage Board of Trade. Arrangements were made through the War Loan Committee and the talks were well received." Thanks for the information, Mr. Taylor. Incidentally, the Avenue Theatre, Toronto, was fortunate in having two distinguished speakers for the War Loan appeal, The Hon. Leopold MacCauley and The Hon. J. Earl Lawson

Letter from the Capitol, Sudbury, addressed to Jack Arthur, informs Mr. Arthur that on receipt of the wire from Mr. Nathanson, speakers were arranged, Mr. T. D. Edward, President War Loan Committee, and the Crown Attorney, Mr. W. D. Wilken. On Sunday night, providing weather is bad, the manager, Sid Scott, offered the Capitol to the Civil Guard, Sault Ste. Marie Regiment, Forestry Reg. Legion and three bands, for inspection and drumhead service by Attorney-General Conant and Officer-in-Command of M.D. No. 2. Sid was a guest at the evening banquet for Mr. Conant and the Military officers attending.

A letter from Miss S. M. Assaly of the Grand Theatre, Melfort, Sask., in which she thanks the War Services Committee for her membership card and assures the War Services Committee "we will do all we can to assist in the successful prosecution of the war".

A LETTER from Walter Wilson, Capitol, Edmonton, Alta., in which he advises that the War Services Committee's letter in connection with Canadian Red Cross Fund was brought up at a meeting of the Theatres Association, and all theatres promised to give their full support, agreeing to supply a desk in their lobby with a Red Cross Nurse in attendance during the period of the campaign.

(*Continued on Page 7*)

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British Columbia Patrons Spend $4.38 Per Capita On Screen Fare

MOTION PICTURE THEATRES EMPLOY 8,834 PERSONS

Ottawa, Ont. — The annual survey of motion picture theatres in Canada for 1939 shows but slight change in the receipts. Income for 1938 was $33,635,052 as compared with $34,010,115 in 1939. The per capita expenditure at motion picture shows for 1939, is an average of $3.03, based on the estimated population of 11,305,000 in Canada, and the total receipts of motion picture houses and itinerant operators combined.

Still in first place, the British Columbia patron pays an average of $4.83 per year for motion picture entertainment. Ontario was second at $4.08, Manitoba, $3.03; Alberta, $2.61; Nova Scotia, $2.59; Quebec, $2.19; New Brunswick, $1.84; Saskatchewan, $1.57, and Prince Edward Island, $1.23.

The total receipts in the provinces vary in accordance with conditions. Although there is little change in the total Dominion-wide receipts, results for Manitoba and Saskatchewan reflect changes in consumer income due to variations in crop conditions in 1938. In the province of Manitoba a decline in the value of field crops in 1938 below 1937, affected the amount of money available for expenditures on goods and services in 1939, with motion picture theatre receipts showing a decline of 4.3 per cent below 1938. Conditions in Saskatchewan with greatly improved crop conditions in 1938, brought an increase of almost 9 per cent in theatre revenue in 1939. The improved economic conditions in Nova Scotia accounted for an increase of 5.8 per cent in theatre receipts in this province, whereas there was a decline of 4.1 per cent in the receipts in New Brunswick. Other provinces showed but a slight change in receipts.

The report shows that a total of 1,186 motion picture theatres gave employment, either full or part time, to 8,834 persons in Canada last year. Included in the total number were 7,477 employees to whom $5,954,796 was paid in salaries and wages. There were, in addition, 1,357 proprietors or firm members including a certain number of members of proprietors' families working without stated compensation.

The itinerant operators in Canada last year numbered 107. These operators played to 893,921 admissions and $210,105 receipts, compared with 631,569 admissions and $134,146 receipts reported by only 64 operators in 1938. Approximately 60 per cent of itinerant show business was confined to the three Prairie Provinces.

COLIN DANSON CO-OPERATES WITH ARMY AND RED CROSS

Sussex, N.B. — The Strand at Sussex, N.B., Colin Danson, Manager, is proving itself a real Community centre and more than doing its share in the entertainment of the Soldier population of this busy little town. For several recent Sundays entertainments have been held at the Strand in aid of patriotic funds or to provide amusement and brightness in the lives of the troops. The Salvation Army had such a concert, another in aid of the Red Cross was held and this week a programme is to be given in co-operation with a N.B. Brunswick Unit to provide band instruments. Mr. Danson, it is understood, is donating one instrument to this band personally.

SPEAKERS AT THEATRES

Saint John, N.B. — Through a wire from the Canadian Motion Picture War Services Committee, N. L. Nathanson, Chairman, Walter H. Golding, in the late afternoon of a more than usually busy day, received a request to arrange speakers on the Second War Loan in the Saint John Theatres. Through the Service Clubs, speakers were secured for that same evening at the Capitol, Strand, Mayfair, Empire and Regent, who addressed audiences on the patriotism and advantages of buying this Second War Loan and making an appeal to the small investor as well as to the more monied men.

ERECT LOG FRONTS FOR "NWMP" PREMIERE

Regina, Sask. — Managers Larry Graburn and Charlie Bahrynowski, of the Capitol and Met Theatres, have received permission from the city council to erect huge, log fronts on their theatres for the world premiere of "North West Mounted Police", to be held in Regina, Oct. 21. Fronts will be ready early in October.

J. Maxwell Joice and George Fraser are in town to give the premiere a build-up. Joice is handling exploitation and outdoor publicity and Fraser is writing.

LOUIS MAYER CONTRIBUTION

Saint John, N.B.—Louis B. Mayer, through the interest of F. G. Spencer sent one hundred dollars in aid of the Navy League entertainment which Gracie Fields is giving at Saint John, N.B., in aid of the British and Canadian Navy Leagues.

TORONTO INDEPENDENTS PROTEST CANOPY TAX

Toronto, Ont. — The proposal made by Work Commissioner Harris, that a fee be charged for inspection of theatre canopies projecting over public property, was opposed by the Independent Theatres Association. The charge proposed was a fee of 25c a square foot.

A request of the theatre owners of Toronto to have the tax readjusted was taken before the Civic Works Committee by N. A. Taylor, Vice-President of the Independent Theatres Association. Mr. Taylor pointed out that the theatres already were heavily taxed. He further contended that the new canopy tax was not clearly stated, and seemed excessive. The Association suggested that $10 per sign be charged rather than the new suggested fee.

The case was left to a subcommittee for investigation.

NEW CORNWALL THEATRE

Cornwall, Ont. — Famous Players Canadian Corporation will build a 700 seat theatre here at a cost of approximately $60,000. The theatre will be located on Montreal Road, east of McConnell Avenue on a site purchased three years ago. At present there are two theatres in Cornwall operated by the Palace Amusement Company.

"DISNEY FESTIVAL" BIG

Calgary, Alta. — To accomodate the crowds attending "Snow White" and the Disney Festival at the Palace, doors were opened at 11.30 a.m. on the Saturday during the show's run.

ALLIED EXHIBITORS MEET OCTOBER 2nd

Halifax, N.S. — October 2nd is the date for the meeting of the Allied Exhibitors Association of Nova Scotia which is to be held at the Nova Scotian Hotel. There will be an open meeting and a dinner to which the Film Exchange Managers have received invitations. It is anticipated that a speaker of prominence will attend from Toronto.

SUMMARY OF MOTION PICTURE STATISTICS, 1930 to 1939

Year and Province	No. of Theatres	Receipts (1)	Paid Admissions	Employees (2)		
				Male	Female	Salaries and Wages
		$				$
1930	910	38,479,500	.....	4,641	1,502	6,946,700
1931	.....	34,006,400	.....	.....	.....	.....
1932	.....	28,731,300	.....	.....	.....	.....
1933	765	24,954,200	.....	3,842	1,396	4,446,200
1934	799	25,280,300	107,718,000	4,251	1,362	4,289,400
1935	862	27,272,500	117,964,056	4,571	1,454	4,826,600
1936	959	29,610,300	127,441,574	4,961	1,558	4,928,700
1937	1,047	32,499,300	134,374,061	5,294	1,656	5,627,300
1938	1,133	33,635,052	137,976,052	5,422	1,826	5,666,049
1939						
CANADA	1,186	34,010,115	138,497,043	5,574	1,903	5,954,796
Prince Edward Island	6	112,158	397,940	23	9	13,197
Nova Scotia	64	1,420,395	6,204,655	249	111	223,237
New Brunswick	39	826,285	3,699,291	133	75	120,269
Quebec	172	7,032,678	29,489,279	1,124	328	1,049,726
Ontario	383	15,247,941	59,686,373	2,464	632	2,698,316
Manitoba	115	2,181,732	9,596,548	380	245	379,122
Saskatchewan	144	1,433,862	5,692,883	300	96	239,841
Alberta	150	2,013,514	7,775,491	389	83	409,823
British Columbia	113	3,741,550	15,954,583	512	324	821,265

(1) Not including amusement taxes.
(2) Not including proprietors or firm members.

BIG STORM DAMAGES MARITIME APPLE CROP

Saint John, N.B. — The big storm which swept the Maritimes caused havoc in more than loss of life along the coast and great destruction of apple and ornamental trees in parks and city squares. Electrical power was interrupted for one or more nights and dark houses resulted at Moncton where the Capitol and Imperial Theatres were dark, and at Sussex, River Herbert, Bridgewater, Amherst, Kentville, Middleton, Wolfville and Digby.

At Saint John the Capitol Theatre is situated over a spring of water and the staff were up all night trying to keep water out of the cellar besides battling with the wind which threatened the large plate glass windows at the front of the theatre. Walter H. Golding, manager of the theatre, was swept off his feet by the wind and carried against a parked motor with a resultant broken nose and rib, and two sprained wrists.

LIEBERMAN RETURNS

Saint John, N.B. — J. Lieberman has returned from a visit at Toronto where he visited his parents, and also enjoyed a re-union with his brother, Jay Lieberman, manager of the Rialto Theatre at Edmonton, Alberta. J. Lieberman is manager of the Columbia Pictures Ltd. Exchange of Saint John and recently took over the job of canvassing all members of the Exchanges in the city in aid of the Red Cross Campaign.

CARR TO MONTREAL

Saint John, N.B. — John Carr has been transferred to the Montreal territory. Mr. Carr has for a number of years represented the Dominion Sound Equipments Limited in this territory and has been closely associated with the Motion Picture Industry in New Brunswick. He was formerly a radio engineer on the ships of a large English corporation. His place will be taken in this city by J. E. Tagg.

F. G. SPENCER A WORKER

Saint John, N.B. — It is an unlucky Committee in this city which has not enlisted the the services of F. G. Spencer. Mr. Spencer is Chairman of the War Savings Committee Publicity and is also working very hard on the Red Cross Campaign where his efforts are most valuable and he is spending much time travelling about the province in aid of both these patriotic and important causes.

FRED McLENNAN PASSES

Brockville, Ont. — Fred McLennan, theatre manager here for the past twenty years, passed away at the age of 59.

Born at Cornwall, he had lived in Brockville for 35 years. His death followed an illness of five months.

GOOD MIDNIGHT SHOW

Regina, Sask. — Midnight preview of "They Drive By Night" at Charlie Bahrynowski's Met Theatre recently drew a good crowd. It was one of the first midnight shows here in almost a year.

SHOW INCREASE IN PROFESSIONAL STAGE SHOWS

Ottawa, Canada — The annual survey of motion picture entertainment for 1939 shows that amateur stage performances presented along with motion pictures, declined in popularity in 1939 compared with 1938, while professional performances recorded an increase. There were 101 theatres which held amateur performances together with screen entertainment for a total of 1,107 days in 1939. In the preceding year 26 theatres gave amateur performances for a total of 1,552 days.

Professional vaudeville acts were shown in 108 theatres for 4,514 days in 1939 as compared with 99 theatres showing such acts for 3,171 days in 1938. Stock companies or road shows giving stage performances without screen entertainment, played in 65 theatres for 472 days in 1939 compared with 55 theatres for 426 days in 1938.

WAR LOAN SPEAKER

Saint John, N.B. — Among those who addressed audiences at the theatres in Saint John on the Second War Loan was R. G. March, who spoke at the Strand Theatre, Saint John, N.B. Mr. March will leave shortly for a 20th Century-Fox Convention at Boston, Mass.

ISCOVE TO U.A.

Calgary, Alta. — Al Iscove, who has been handling prairie distribution for Grand National here, has joined United Artists and his job has been taken over by H. Duncan, a Calgary boy.

"Hired Wife" Brilliant Comedy Success

"HIRED WIFE"
UNIVERSAL

THIS is one of the season's brightest comedies, executed by a star-studded cast, and featuring clever dialogue and brilliant direction. The story, naturally enough, is not very original. I believe I have seen the same theme in at least three other features, but it has had a pretty fair repaint job done on it, and may fool all but the most discerning.

Rosalind Russell plays the role of private secretary to cement executive Briane Aherne. Every Spring Aherne falls in love, and every midsummer, Rosalind has managed to untangle the web that has been woven around him. This time, however, his affiliation is for high-priced model Virginia Bruce, and since Rosalind is in love with him herself, she does her darndest to break up the Virginia Bruce affair before it even gets started. She fails, but when Aherne, for business reasons, must get married on short notice, Rosalind succeeds in getting the job, by double-crossing Virginia into turning it down. Aherne learns of his wife-secretary's duplicity, and is properly enfuriated. He tries to explain to his fiancee, that his wife really means nothing to him, and for a time it looks as if Rosalind is in, but out, in a manner of speaking. But John Carroll, a South American gigolo whom Rosalind once knew, turns up, and she finances him in a suit for Virginia. There are numerous complications before the inevitable happy ending, but the final pairings are Aherne and Rosalind, Carroll and Virginia.

Except for the hats she wears, Rosalind Russell is very striking as the "Hired Wife". She has previously shown an unusual flair for light comedy, and in this she is able to give that gift free rein. Aherne also scores heavily in a light role, while Virginia Bruce and John Carroll both perform most effectively. Carroll, in particular, does fine work. As an added treat, there is the inimitable Robert Benchley as Brian Aherne's lawyer and best friend. Benchley contributes a great number of chuckles, especially as he talks in his sleep, and snores.

Directed by William Seiter.

Running time—96 minutes.

ST. JOHN VISITORS

Saint John, N.B. — Visitors in Saint John, N.B., recently, were Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Gazeley of Campbellton, N.B. Mr. Gazeley is manager of the Capitol Theatres at Campbellton and Dalhousie, N.B., and was passing through Saint John to spend a vacation in Nova Scotia.

"NO TIME FOR COMEDY"
WARNER BROTHERS

THIS was the second Rosalind Russell picture your reviewer saw this week, and I regret to have to report that it is far from being as entertaining as its running mate. I saw the S. N. Behrman play in Toronto last season, with Katharine Cornell and Francis Lederer in the lead roles, and as a stage play it was a riot. As a motion picture, it is quite amusing for the first twenty minutes, mildly amusing for the next sixty, and quite boring for the last nineteen.

Chief fault lies in the casting of James Stewart in the Francis Lederer role. Stewart, one of the grandest actors on the screen today, is badly miscast in the part, and it is obvious that the author of the screenplay, Julius Epstein, tried to rewrite the role in order to make it more suitable for Stewart.

Story is of a smalltown youth who writes a play about Park Avenue. It is accepted for production by a Broadway producer as starring vehicle for a famous feminine star. He brings the author to New York to help with the production, and star and playwright fall in love and marry, the show being a hit. The playwright turns out three more comedies in similar vein to the first, during the next three years, and all are hits, with his wife being starred each time. Then he meets up with a Park Avenue wife, who discovers "latent possibilities" in him, which she wishes to help develop. She becomes his "inspiration", as he turns from comedy to drama, and writes a serious play "with a message", at the same time becoming estranged from his wife. Unlike the "Message to Garcia", our author's "message" fails to get across, the play is a terrible flop, his "inspiration" abandons him, and in the end he is reconciled with his still loving wife.

Miss Russell is satisfactory as the famous star, but Stewart is lost as the playwright. As the "inspiration", Genevieve Tobin succeeds in being quite unconvincing, while Charles Ruggles also confuses in a straight role. Louise Beavers gets a number of laughs as the colored maid, but her role, too, is most implausible. Allyn Joslyn, Clarence Kolb, Robert Grieg and J. M. Kerrigan are tops among the support.

Directed by William Keighley.

Running time—99 minutes.

FILMS AT HARRIS

Harris, Sask.—Films are now being shown weekly at the Orange Hall here. First attraction booked for the fall season is "Only Angels Have Wings".

Resume of Pictures Reviewed In August

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

"PRIDE AND PREJUDICE"

STARRING Laurence Olivier and Greer Garson, with Maureen O'Sullivan, Ann Rutherford, Heather Angel, Marsha Hunt, Edna May Oliver, Mary Boland, Edmund Gwenn and Melville Cooper. Directed by Robert Z. Leonard. Running time—117 minutes.

"A picture that will appeal most to the 'weaker sex' . . . presents the problems incurred by a mother of five daughters, in getting them married off to wealthy husbands . . . Olivier doesn't seem too happy in his role, but nevertheless portrays it with expertness and finesse."

"I LOVE YOU AGAIN"

STARRING William Powell and Myrna Loy, with Frank McHugh and Edmund Lowe. Directed by W. S. Van Dyke II. Running time—105 minutes.

"The story your reviewer advised Metro three years ago to buy for Powell-Loy . . . hilarious comedy . . . grand entertainment . . . William Powell's best picture in a long while."

PARAMOUNT

"THE GREAT McGINTY"

STARRING Brian Donlevy and Akim Tamiroff, with Muriel Angelus and William Demarest, Allyn Joslyn and Arthur Hoyt. Directed by Preston Sturgess. Running time 81 minutes.

"One of those pictures film folk fondly refer to as 'sleepers' . . . produced at a ridiculously low cost, boasting no great star names, and with its director making his debut behind the megaphone, it is still one hour and twenty minutes of rough and rowdy comedy, and really swell entertainment."

"RHYTHM ON THE RIVER"

STARRING Bing Crosby, Basil Rathbone and Mary Martin, with Oscar Levant and Charley Grapewin. Directed by Victor Schertzinger. Running time—92 minutes.

"Just about the best Bing Crosby picture, barring 'Road to Singapore', in the past couple of years . . . features seven brand-new songs, each and every one of them eligible for the Hit Parade . . . Basil Rathbone scores heavily in a comedy role."

20th CENTURY-FOX

"CAVALCADE"

STARRING Clive Brook and Diana Wynyard, with Una O'Connor, Margaret Lindsay, and Frank Lawton. Directed by Frank Lloyd. Running time—108 minutes.

"Revival of the 1933 Academy Award smash hit, that still ranks as one of the screen's biggest box-office successes . . . more timely and significant in its message than ever . . . a striking picturization of the British way of life . . . the story of the British Empire from 1900 to 1933 as seen through the eyes of one particular English family."

"RETURN OF FRANK JAMES"

STARRING Henry Fonda, with Jackie Cooper, Henry Hull, J. Edward Bromberg, John Carridine, Donald Meek, and Gene Tierney. Directed by Fritz Lang. Running time—92 minutes.

"An eminently satisfying outdoor drama, extravagantly mounted, and finished off in a beautiful coating of Natalie Kalmus' Technicolor . . . as a sequel to last year's smash box-office hit, it's all good stuff, and nearly everybody will eat it up, but it's no 'Jesse James'."

RKO RADIO

"LUCKY PARTNERS"

STARRING Ronald Colman and Ginger Rogers, with Jack Carson, Spring Byington, Harry Davenport, Cecilia Loftus, Hugh O'Connell and Leon Belasco. Directed by Lewis Milestone. Running time—98 minutes."

"A worthy successor to 'My Favorite Wife', with Ronald Colman showing to better advantage than at any time in the past two years . . . Ginger Rogers repeats her swell comedy work of 'Bachelor Mother' . . . a French novel in theme, with a number of double-meaning lines and situations."

WARNER BROTHERS

"LADIES MUST LIVE"

STARRING Wayne Morris and Rosemary Lane, with Roscoe Karns and Lee Patrick. Directed by Noel Smith. Running time—58 minutes.

"Just a fairly entertaining comedy . . . not overly strong in cast it needed a smash screenplay plus outstanding direction to really put it over . . . its got neither . . . can only fill as lower half of a dual bill."

"FLOWING GOLD"

STARRING John Garfield, Pat O'Brien and Frances Farmer, with Cliff Edwards, Jody Gilbert, Tom Kennedy, Raymond Walburn, and Granville Bates. Directed by Alfred E. Green. Running time—80minutes.

"A re-make of the former Milton Sills starrer . . . from the book by Rex Beach . . . has retained the title and background only of the original . . . will cash in on the 'Flowing Gold' that will overflow from those theatres playing 'Boom Town' . . . stars perform their parts nobly, but without inspiration."

UNITED ARTISTS

"FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT"

STARRING Joel McCrea, with Herbert Marshall, Laraine Day, George Sanders, Robert Benchley, Eduardo Cianelli, Eddie Conrad and Edmund Gwenn. Directed by Alfred Hitchcock. Produced by Walter Wanger. Running time—119 minutes.

"Hitchcock, master of suspense, has done it again . . . another corking spy-mystery thriller that should do landslide business . . . originally intended as filmization of Vincent Sheeans 'Personal History' . . . production value is exceptional, as is direction . . . if you miss 'Foreign Correspondent' you miss one of the year's greatest hits."

COLUMBIA

"HE STAYED FOR BREAKFAST"

STARRING Loretta Young and Melvyn Douglas, with Eugene Pallette, Alan Marshal, Una O'Connor. Leonid Kinsky and Curt Bois. Directed by Alexander Hall. Running time—86 minutes.

"If anybody still had doubts about Melvyn Douglas' alleged 'Pink' sympathies, they should finally be dispelled, for if ever he had any connection whatsoever with the Communist Party, his roles in 'Ninotchka' and 'He Stayed For Breakfast' would definitely bring about his expulsion; in both cases the Party takes a terrific ribbing, and especially in the latter film . . . direction, while not outstanding, is satisfactory in every way."

GRACIE FIELDS

Moncton, N.B.—To add interest to the Gracie Fields entertainment in aid of the Navy League a party of nineteen men from the Naval Forces serving at Sain John, will go to Moncton by bus. They are under the direction of Commander Paul Cross assisted by Chief Petty Officer Howard. As a Gracie Fields picture was recently shown in Moncton this fact should add to the number of patrons for her entertainment which is in aid of Navy League Funds.

MOUNTIE BENEFIT SHOW

Moncton, N.B. — Jack Butler of the Imperial Theatre at Moncton, N.B., is staging a four day show in co-operation with the Mounted Police of that city. The Mounties are selling the tickets and receiving half of the proceeds.

KIELY IN ST. JOHN'S

Saint John, N.B. — J. P. Kiely of Montreal passed through Saint John recently, on his way to St. John's, Newfoundland.

RAY PRESENTS

(*Continued from Page* 3)

A letter from Chas. A. Magnan of the Malartic Theatre, Abitibi, Que., in which the writer thanks the War Services Committee for his membership and adds, "You may rest assured that I will always endeavor to do my share in contributing to every movement that our Industry may undertake to help our Country at War. As suggested in your letter of the 21st ultimo, I will surely supply our Red Cross local organization with a table or desk in my lobby during the coming campaign."

And now a little news from London. Several theatres have been bombed, many are closed, but the morale presents a solid front too formidable for any Hitler Invasion. The British Producers' Committee were drafting a cable to send to the U.S. in which they deny that British production is at a standstill until the end of the war. About six members have produced or released approximately 20 of the current British productions with advanced schedules showing between 20 and 30 more British-produced pictures. This is good news in Canada where there is a very decided British Film Market.

WAR SERVICES CO-OPERATION AIDS WAR LOAN SALE

Esteven, Sask. — Co-operating with the Dominion War Loan drive the Canadian Motion Picture War Services Committee requested theatres across the country to arrange special features in support of the present campaign. Orpheum, here, had three speakers on successive evenings. Speakers were T. A. Torgeson, W. H. Schlosser and Rev. E. H. Lewis. Acting manager W. H. S. Glew introduced the speakers.

GARRICK CLOSES

Halifax, N.S. — The Garrick Theatre, one of the oldest cinema houses in this city, has been closed, following the termination of a lease held by Famous Players Canadian Corporation.

Situated on Sackville Street, the Garrick was built about 25 years ago as a vaudeville house, and operated under the name of The Strand until 10 years ago. The theatre was first operated by J. M. Franklin, and later the late J. M. O'Connell, Roy MacDonald and Kendall Fay were house managers. P. J. Hannifen managed the house until the expiration of the lease.

The theatre has been sold by the Canadian Bank of Commerce to A. J. Garson, Saint John business man. Mr. Garson plans to renovate the theatre immediately, and to operate it.

NEON SIGN FOR SALE

Height of Sign: 15 ft. 4 in.
Width of Sign: 6 ft. 6 in.
Thickness: 10 in.

Letters are in Red, Green and Fluorescent Gold and are 5½ in., 8 in. — 10 in. in height. The sign was previously used for Roller Skating and Dancing but can be converted to make attractive theatre sign. Three transformers.

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PREMIER SPEAKS

Regina, Sask. — To aid the sale of war bonds, Premier W. J. Patterson, M. A. MacPherson, Cole F. James, W. M. Houston and J. H. Wesson appeared on the stages of Regina's theatres on a recent Saturday night and spoke briefly.

DEMOLISH CAPITOL

Trenton, Ont. — The Capitol Theatre here has been demolished. Formerly known as Weller's Opera House, the theatre was built over thirty years ago.

THWART THIEVES

Timmins, Ont. — Thieves attempted to break into the safe of the Palace Theatre here, but were thwarted when Tom Ansara, operator, returned to the theatre immediately after its closing.

NEW THEATRE LEASE OFFER

Theatre in large and prosperous Ontario town offered for lease to responsible people. Theatre now being constructed. Seating capacity 750 including smoking loges. Construction modern. Site most desirable. Address Box 5—Digest, 259 Spadina Avenue, or telephone WA. 4929. Write or telephone quick, considering other offers.

RENOVATE BELLARD

Fort Erie, Ont. — The Bellard Theatre, now closed for renovation, will reopen in October.

RENOVATE CAPITOL

Summerside, P.E.I. — Harold Gaudet of the Capitol Theatre, Summerside, P.E.I., is on a visit to Montreal. The Capitol Theatre is to be renovated and a new front constructed.

Trans-Canada Showings

TORONTO

AVENUE
"Our Town" (United Artists), with Frank Craven, Martha Scott and William Holden.

IMPERIAL
"Hired Wife" (Universal), with Rosalind Russell, Brian Aherne and Virginia Bruce.

LOEW'S
2nd week. "Foreign Correspondent" (United Artists), with Joel McCrea.

SHEA'S
"I Married Adventure" (Columbia), with Osa Johnson, also "Military Academy" (Columbia), with Tommy Kelly, Bobby Jordan and David Holt.

UPTOWN
"Pastor Hall" (Empire-Universal), with Wilfrid Lawson.

WINNIPEG

CAPITOL
"The Return of Frank James" (20th Century-Fox), with Henry Fonda.

GAIETY
"The Mortal Storm" (Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer), with Margaret Sullavan and James Stewart.

GARRICK
4th week. "He Stayed For Breakfast" (Columbia), with Loretta Young and Melvyn Douglas.

MET
"I Married a Nazi" (20th Century-Fox), with Joan Bennett, Francis Lederer and Anna Sten, also "Sporting Blood" (Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer), with Robert Young and Maureen O'Sullivan.

LYCEUM
"The Man Who Talked Too Much" (First-National), with George Brent, Virginia Bruce and Brenda Marshall, also "Ladies Must Live" (Warner Bros.), with Wayne Morris and Rosemary Lane.

SAINT JOHN

CAPITOL
"South of Pago Pago" (United Artists), with Victor McLaglen, Jon Hall and Frances Farmer.

MAYFAIR
"Edison, The Man" (Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer), with Spencer Tracy, also "Calling Philo Vance" (Warner Bros.), with James Stephenson.

STRAND
"The Doctor Takes a Wife" (Columbia), with Loretta Young and Ray Milland.

MONTREAL

CAPITOL
2nd week. "They Drive By Night" (Warner Bros.) with George Raft, Ann Sheridan, Ida Lupino and Humphrey Bogart.

LOEW'S
"The Sea Hawk" (Warner Bros.), with Errol Flynn, Brenda Marshall and Claude Rains.

ORPHEUM
"Captain Caution" (United Artists), with Victor Mature, Louise Platt and Leo Carrillo.

PALACE
"No Time For Comedy" (Warner Bros.), with James Stewart, Rosalind Russell, Genevieve Tobin and Charlie Ruggles.

PRINCESS
"Young People" (20th Century-Fox), with Shirley Temple, Jack Oakie and Charlotte Greenwood.

CALGARY

CAPITOL
"The Sea Hawk" (Warner Bros.), with Errol Flynn, Brenda Marshall and Claude Rains.

PALACE
"My Love Came Back" (Warner Bros.), with Olivia de Havilland and Jeffrey Lynn.

STRAND
"Irene" (RKO Radio), with Anna Neagle and Ray Milland.

VANCOUVER

CAPITOL
"Foreign Correspondent" (United Artists), with Joel McCrea and Laraine Day.

DOMINION
"Brother Orchid" (Warner Bros.), with Edward G. Robinson, also "'Till We Meet Again" (Warner Bros.), with Merle Oberon and George Brent.

ORPHEUM
"The Return of Frank James" (20th Century-Fox), with Henry Fonda, also "Pier 13" (20th Century-Fox), with Lloyd Nolan and Lynn Bari.

PLAZA
"The Outsider" (Empire - Universal), with George Sanders and Mary Maguire.

STRAND
"Gold Rush Maisie" (Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer), with Ann Sothern and Lee Bowman, also "Sporting Blood" (Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer), with Robert Young and Maureen O'Sullivan.